

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A fire retarding device for covering a hot casing is disclosed. The device includes a member adapted to cover at least a portion of the hot casing and consists at least in part of a porous flame arresting matrix having a plurality of substantially interconnected voids defined therein. The voids have a maximum size which is predetermined to limit flame propagation of an ignited fluid across said voids. One possible construction for the matrix is one or more intermingled metal filaments arranged in a blanket-like form.

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